



Betsy Clark checks out a book for Governor Marc Racicot as State Librarian Karen Strege watches.

## Governor Racicot Dedicates New State Library Automation System

On December 3, 1996 the Montana State Library dedicated its new automation system. Karen Strege, State Librarian, extended thanks to all who helped with the automation system. Many individuals, both staff and volunteers, contributed many hours to this endeavor.

Governor Marc Racicot cut the ribbon placed around two of the computers and Karen Strege presented the governor with library card number one. The Governor expressed his deeply held feelings on the importance of libraries. He stated that libraries are the back-bone of democracy.

The audience included members of the State Library Commission, State Library staff, federation coordinators, other librarians and state employees.

The following are some excerpts from Governor Racicot's speech:

The framers of the Montana Constitution recognized that free and open access to information about government is a hallmark of a democratic society. The State Library is one place where all citizens can access information about their state and federal government in addition to finding many other resources. This automated system gives citizens more efficient and effective access to the State Library's fine collection.



Left to right: State Library Commissioners Cheri Bergeron, Michael Schulz and Dorothy Laird, Governor Racicot, State Library Commissioners Eleanor Gray, Harold Stearns and Peggy Guthrie.

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# Commission Meeting

January 29, 1997

The Commission approved the FY 98 plans of services for each of the library federations. Each of the plans emphasizes at least four of the areas of Commission emphasis: technology, continuing education, reference support, resource sharing and consulting.

The 1996 Collection Management Honor Roll was approved. The 27 libraries on the honor roll include:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ☞ Bozeman Public Library                   | ☞ Plains Public Library                                 |
| ☞ Butte-Silver Bow Public Library          | ☞ Sheridan County Library (Plentywood)                  |
| ☞ Blaine County Library (Chinook)          | ☞ Daniels County Library (Scobey)                       |
| ☞ W.K. Kohrs Memorial Library (Deer Lodge) | ☞ Stone Child College Library (Box Elder)               |
| ☞ Madison Valley Public Library (Ennis)    | ☞ Montana State University Libraries (Bozeman)          |
| ☞ Glasgow City County Library              | ☞ University of Great Falls Library                     |
| ☞ Great Falls Public Library               | ☞ Flathead Valley Community College Library (Kalispell) |
| ☞ Harlem Public Library                    | ☞ Salish Kootenai College Library (Pablo)               |
| ☞ Havre-Hill County Library                | ☞ Dawson County High School Library (Glendive)          |
| ☞ Lewis and Clark Public Library (Helena)  | ☞ Libby Middle School Library                           |
| ☞ Flathead County Library (Kalispell)      | ☞ Libby Elementary School Libraries                     |
| ☞ Lincoln County Public Library (Libby)    | ☞ Libby High School Library                             |
| ☞ Phillips County Library (Malta)          | ☞ Sidney Public School Libraries.                       |
| ☞ Missoula Public Library                  |   |

## Personal Highlight: Vicki Terbovich

Vicki Terbovich, who is currently the Statewide Technology Consultant, has been with the State Library since 1984. At the 1997 Offline Retreat she was awarded the first Biblio-Techie Award for "her unstinting energy and generosity in bringing library automation into...Montana's many libraries." Renee Goss, Sidney Public Library said of Vicki, "by your efforts, perseverance and ingenuity you have made visions become realities."

Vicki received her M.L.S. from the University of Arizona, School of Library and Information Science, in December of 1993. She has a Bachelor of Science in Education with an emphasis in Special Education, and has completed fifth year studies in Special Education of the Multi-Handicapped. In the spring of 1994, Vicki was recommended by then president of MLA, Sue Nissen, and the former State Librarian, Richard T. Miller, Jr. and selected by the Dean of the School of Library Science at the University of Arizona to be a participant in the Snowbird Leadership Institute, sponsored by Ameritech Library Services.

Vicki works with librarians, library staff, trustees and others to acquaint them with current technology, to help empower librarians to make technology decisions for their libraries, and reviews library automation projects. Vicki averaged 285 phone calls a month and traveled more than 14,000 miles this past year helping librarians get up and running on Internet and to automate their library collections. Completion of the LSCA Public Library Internet Infrastructure Project, which has connected more than 17 Montana libraries, is just one of Vicki's recent accomplishments. Vicki has played an integral part in selecting, managing and implementing our own Ameritech Horizon Library Automation System at MSL. As an advisory member of the Statewide Technology Committee, Vicki has participated in technology planning statewide, and has completed work with an editor as well as with more than 150 other members of the Montana library community, in the development of the Statewide Strategic Plan for Library Technology.

# The New Library Services and Technology Act

The new Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) is a subtitle of the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996. The purposes for which LSTA funds can be used are: establishing or enhancing electronic linkages among or between libraries; electronically linking libraries with educational, social or information services; assisting libraries in accessing information through electronic networks; encouraging libraries in different areas, and encouraging different types of libraries, to establish consortia and share resources; or paying costs for libraries to acquire or share computer systems and telecommunications technologies; and targeting library and information services to persons

having difficulty using a library and to underserved urban and rural communities, including children (from birth through age 17) from families with incomes below the poverty line. Each state must submit a five-year plan which is to be evaluated prior to the end of the five years. Under LSTA a state advisory council is not mandatory as it was under LSCA.

President Clinton's FY 1998 budget includes a request for 136 million dollars for LSTA purposes. If Congress approves this budget, the State Library estimates that Montana will receive approximately \$687,000.

## Legislative Highlights

State Library Budget -The House Appropriations Committee approved the State Library's appropriations for the next biennium. They also approved the Governor's new proposal for a software upgrade for the State Library's Talking Books Library.

Coal Tax Funds -The Natural Resource Appropriations Sub-Committee approved the use of \$332,650 to fund Federation operations for the next two years. The Committee also authorized expenditure of \$33,000 of coal tax funds for an Internet access project.

HB366 -This bill, sponsored by Representative Ray Peck, would allocate funds to the State Library to fund a license for an electronic, full-text periodical database. The House Appropriations Committee is expected to take action on this bill during the week of March 17.

HB 453 -This bill would amend the existing laws concerning obscenity. The sponsor, Representative Peggy Arnott, has removed the current protection for librarians and trustees. If passed, the new law would not protect library officials from prosecution for obscenity violations. This bill passed the House on February 26 and will be considered by the Senate's Public Health, Welfare and Safety on March 19th.

SB89-Telecommunications Reform - The Senate passed an amended version on March 11 which does not include an universal access program for Montana's Libraries.

If you have any questions about these bills or the State Library budget, please call Karen Strege at 444-3116.

## New Acquisitions

**Technology and Copyright Law - A Guidebook for the Library, Research, and Teaching Professions** -by Arlene Bielefield and Lawrence Cheeseman - 346.7304BIELEF

**Brief Tests of Collection Strength - A Methodology for All Types of Libraries** - by Howard D. White - 025.21WHITE

**Creating the Future - Essays on Librarianship** - Sally Gardner Reed, Editor - 020CREATIN

**Managing Acquisitions and Vendor Relations - A How-To-Do-It Manual** - by Heather S. Miller - 025.2MILLER

**Making the Most of New Technology - A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians** - by Kathleen R.T. Imhoff - 025.0028IMHOFF

**A Beginner's Guide To Copy Cataloging On OCLC/Prism** - by Lois Messengale Schultz - 025.3SCHULZ

**Subject Analysis in Online Catalogs** - By Rao Aluri, D. Alasdair Kemp and John J. Boll - 025.3132ALURI

**Introduction to Cataloging and Classification** - by Bohdan S. Wynar and eighth edition updates by Arlene G. Taylor - 025.3WYNAR

# A Word from Our State Librarian:

During the past two months I have spent most of my time preparing testimony for the legislature. I did anticipate some of this demand; however, I did not foresee the hearings on the obscenity bills or the bill that struck all reference to the Talking Book Library from Library Commission statutes.



Karen Strege

Last December I planned to complete many projects during the first four months of 1997. I was, at the very least, naive about the demands of the legislative session. This is only one lesson that I've learned during the past two months. Other lessons are . . .

1. Attend all hearings at which the committee considers any part of library law.
2. Prepare to advocate for the library's role of providing all types of material.
3. Never go to a fiscal hearing without our accountant, Kris Schmitz.
4. Spend as much time preserving favorable votes as changing negative votes.
5. Cultivate legislators who are willing to share information.
6. Thoroughly read every bill that has the word "information" in the body.
7. Keep a sense of humor.
8. Remember that the legislator who voted against your interests today may be your supporter tomorrow.
9. Don't dwell on failure - analyze it and move on.

Both the State Library staff and the Commission have helped me during my first session. The staff has shown patience with my frequent absences. They have kept our services flowing without much help from me. I appreciate their support and understanding. The Commission has been quietly active by contacting key legislators.

Working with Lois Fitzpatrick has mitigated the downside of the legislative session - tension and some anxiety. Lois' deep commitment to libraries, tempered by a savvy pragmatism and a sense of humor, has helped me to preserve partial sanity.

I would also like to thank those of you who contacted a legislator on the behalf of libraries. Without your action, we cannot succeed. I've been very impressed by your willingness to get involved.

On another note, I plan to travel to each Federation meeting in the Spring to solicit comments about the long range plan draft. I look forward to seeing some of you at these meetings. Even though you may not attend a federation meeting, I would like your comments on the draft plan. The plan will be available on the our Internet home page during the week of March 17th. [URL:<http://msl.mt.gov> - click on the NEW button.]

## Good News for Great Falls Public Library

The Great Falls Public Library Foundation received another distribution of \$300,000 from the estate of Dorothy Lampen Thomson. The latest amount is the result of the sale of estate properties in Montana.

The total received by the Foundation so far from the Lampen estate is \$1.52 million. Another distribution from the sale of properties in New York state is expected in the near future. The funds are restricted to the purchase of non-fiction books.

The GFPL Foundation recently completed its sixth annual Library Phone-a-thon. Nearly \$23,000 was raised, half of which goes to purchase children's books and half to the foundation corpus. The Foundation has raised nearly \$100,000 in its phone-a-thon efforts.

### Changes to the 1997 Montana Library Directory

**Page 3:** Margaret Kernan  
e-mail: [margyk@mtlib.org](mailto:margyk@mtlib.org)

**Page 20:** Roundup Community Library  
New Library Director: Kody Anderson

**Page 33:** Ruder Elementary School  
Columbia Falls - School Librarian: Therese M. Stempin - E-mail: [ruder@digisys.net](mailto:ruder@digisys.net)

**Page 42:** Canyon Elementary School  
Hungry Horse - School Librarian: Therese M. Stempin - E-mail: [ruder@digisys.net](mailto:ruder@digisys.net)

**Page 60:** Glendive: Andrine Haas  
e-mail: [andrine\\_h@dawson.cc.mt.us](mailto:andrine_h@dawson.cc.mt.us)  
MaryAnn Clingsmith  
e-mail: [maryann\\_c@dawson.cc.mt.us](mailto:maryann_c@dawson.cc.mt.us)



# Advisory Council Meeting

February 27, 1997

The Advisory Council voted to recommend to the Commission that nearly \$350,000 of 1998 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds be used to connect all public libraries (those not currently connected) to the Internet and to hire two additional library technology consultants to assist those libraries with implementation. The Council also recommended that nearly \$351,000 of LSTA funds be used for State Library operations,

which is \$40,000 less than has been budgeted for State Library programs in 1997. These recommendations will be presented to the Commission on April 16th for their approval.

Chair Deborah Schlesinger appointed Lois Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Bartlett, Margy Kernan and Wes Plann to a committee to make recommendations on the future composition of the Council, as well as the frequency of meetings.

## WLN Board Retreat and Meeting

by Darlene Staffeldt

WLN Board met February 20 and 21st in Lacey, WA. All board members, except Paul Sybrowsky, were present. We welcomed a new board member - Michael Crose. Mr. Crose is currently the Director of the Technology Division of the BJSS Group in Olympia, WA.

Chair Arthur Pellman began the meeting by revisiting the Myers-Briggs personality types. The test showed that the WLN Board is a very intuitive group of people.

Kim Piper and her administrative services staff reported on the human resources, accounting and training and development activities happening at WLN. The new accounting software should prove to be very helpful. It provides for improved reporting capabilities and a more timely response to special invoice requests.

Paul McCarthy, CEO, reported information on WLN financial status, and ongoing efforts to build alliances with commercial partners. He reported that library customers shift their priorities, WLN is trying to keep up by shifting its objectives as well.

The Board along with some key staff members began some discussions of the strategic planning process for WLN. This will be an ongoing process with the Board as well as the staff asking the following questions: Who are WLN's customers? What are WLN's core competencies? Are our current efforts reflecting

the answers to the above questions? Does WLN stay on this course or are adjustments required?

The WLN Library Directors Colloquy is scheduled for May 2, 1997 in Seattle, WA.

### April Commission meeting

The April 16th State Library Commission meeting will be held via MetNet beginning at 9:30 a.m. The four sites to be connected include: The Department of Public Health and Human Services, 111 Sanders Street, Lower Level, Helena; Western Montana College of the UM, 710 South Atlantic, Rm LCL 23, Basement, Dillon; Miles Community College, 2715 Dickenson St, Rm 106, Miles City; and Flathead Valley Community College, 777 Grandview Drive, Learning Resource Ctr, Rm 120, Kalispell. Interested persons are encouraged to attend at one of these sites.

### NRIS Receives Four Star Rating

The Natural Resource Information System [NRIS], a State Library program, received a four star rating for its Maps of Montana web site from Luckman Interactive. Much of the work on this site was done by Gerry Daumiller. The site URL is: <http://nris.msl.mt.gov/gis/mtmaps.html>

# Calendar

April National Poetry Month  
 April 2 International Children's Book Day  
 April 2-6 American Association of School Librarians National Conference - Portland  
 April 4 Sagebrush Federation Spring Meeting  
 April 5 South Central Federation Spring Meeting  
 April 11 Tamarack Federation Spring Meeting  
 April 11-14 Association of College and Research Libraries 8th National Conference: "Choosing Our Futures" - Nashville  
 April 13-19 National Library Week  
 April 16 Commission Meeting via METNET  
 Great American Read Aloud/Night of a Thousand Stories  
 April 20-26 Reading is Fun Week  
 April 23-26 MT Library Association Conference - Great Falls  
 April 26 Legislative Session Adjourns  
 April 29- May 2 Mountain Plains Library Association, Joint Conference with Oklahoma  
 May 5 Library Advocacy Training and Center for the book Idea Exchange Day - Washington D.C.  
 May 6 ALA Legislative Day - Washington D.C.  
 May 16 Advisory Council Meeting - Helena  
 May 26 Memorial Day - State Holiday  
 June 6-7 Western Council of State Libraries Workshop "Marketing

Services to State Government" - Seattle  
 June 6-10 Special Libraries Association Conference - Seattle  
 June 18 Commission Meeting - Helena  
 June 26- July 3 ALA Annual Conference - San Francisco

## Articles Needed!

The UPDATE has two main focuses. First is to share with you news of what is happening at the State Library. Second, and of equal importance, is to report the news of Montana libraries. If you have news about your library you would like to share, how about submitting an article? Articles are due the first of month in which the newsletter is released, so articles for the next issue [i.e. the May/June issue] are due May 1, 1997]. The publication schedule for the UPDATe follows:

May/June Issue: Articles due: May 1, 1997  
 Released: May 23, 1997  
 July/August Issue: Articles Due: July 1, 1997  
 Released: July 25, 1997  
 September/October Issue: Articles Due: September 1, 1997  
 Released: September 23, 1997  
 November/December Issue: Articles Due: November 1, 1997  
 Released: November 26, 1997



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